

Dear Praying friends,

February 15, 2022

One of our apartment neighbors died suddenly in his home this month. It was a sobering time for our whole building (16 apartments). We didn't really get any particular opportunities with our neighbors except for a brief moment to pray with the deceased's widow. **Please pray that God would grant faith, repentance, and new life to our neighbors**.

Although no physical work has begun on our apartment building we hear that work is progressing behind the scenes in preparation for the construction work on the roof, windows, etc.

Tom's trip to Rome and the conference went well in January. This past Sunday, on short notice, he was asked to lead and preach for the service of a missionary's church about 45 minutes away. Ilario handled the services in our church. We have definitely been blessed to have 2 capable teachers of God's Word.

This was the month of quarantines for us. Nino had to quarantine and take 2 COVID tests because of 2 positive cases in his class (one took about 3 hours). During his quarantine, Angelo was sent to get 2 COVID tests because of 1 case in his class, but he only missed 2 days of school. On the day Nino got formally released from quarantine, Gabriella was notified that she had to go into quarantine (cases in her class) and had to get tested. There was nothing to do but laugh (and record the piano music so that people at church could sing with music while I stayed home with kids). **We thank God for our good health** in the midst of it all. We are also thankful that, as of Monday, we don't have to wear masks outside in the open air any more (they are still required in all closed spaces and anytime we can't maintain distance outside). Also, the number of cases required to shut down a school class has been upped to 4. Maybe we have seen the last of our quarantines? We recently noticed some humorous graffiti that said "quarantine life."

This Sunday, Daniela will play the piano for a hymn. She also had her first video piano lesson—since her teacher has COVID.

You have prayed for Ilario and his work situations in the past, and we ask that you **pray again**. He was recently laid off because of lack of business. It is possible that they will hire him again if there is enough work at the end of March.

Rina's mother is nearing death. Pray for her spiritual needs—and for comfort, strength, and wisdom for Rina.

Thank you for your prayers!

Stephanie (for Tom, Daniela, Nino, Angelo, & Gabriella)

